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S E C R E T SANAA 000031

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TAGS: [ASEC](#) [AMGT](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [YM](#) [EAC](#)

SUBJECT: SANAA EAC MEETING - 4 JANUARY 2003

REF: SANAA 04060

Classified By: Ambassador Edmund J. Hull, Reasons 1.5 (b) and (d).

1. (S/NF) Begin summary: The Ambassador convened an EAC meeting on January 4, 2003, to assess recent threat information that emerged from the investigation of the Dec. 30 Jibla Hospital shooting (see reftel) and adopt measures to enhance security for Yemen-based American citizens. Key offices and personnel represented at the meeting included: DCM, POL/ECON, CONS, ADMIN, PD, RSO, RMO, ORCA, DAO, OMC, SOC YEMEN, FPD and FBI. End summary.

2. (S/NF) The Ambassador held an EAC meeting on January 4 to analyze investigative findings known thus far about the December 30 Jibla Hospital shooting and how this information can be used to bolster security for Americans who reside and work in Yemen. FBI conveyed that the perpetrator, Abd Abdulrazak Mohammed Kamel, was motivated to kill Dr. Martha Myers primarily because he was told of her success in converting numerous Yemenis from Islam to Christianity. FBI emphasized Kamel's focus on killing proselytizers, relaying that Kamel confessed he has nothing against Americans, Christians or Jews. Nevertheless, Kamel added that U.S. Middle East policy is partly to blame for his actions, based on the U.S. military presence in the Red Sea and Arabian Peninsula and support for Israel.

3. (S/NF) EAC discussed the nature and extent of the linkage between Kamel and Ali Al-Jarala (who assassinated the Deputy Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party on December 28), focusing on the potential risk facing the American community. The Ambassador concluded that the most prominent targets are Yemeni secularist politicians, missionaries and members of the U.S. military. However, he placed great importance on determining which other individuals may be in danger, tasking POLM, RSO and FBI to request further information from the PSO and Ministry of Interior.

4. (S/NF) EAC identified specific organizations whose members and employees may be vulnerable because they are either U.S. citizens, organizations with U.S. affiliations, or organizations associated with religious groups or practices. The list includes: Yemen America Language Institute (part of the U.S. Embassy); United Nations; the NGOs CARE, Amideast and National Democratic Institute; Sanaa International School; Adra (a faith-based Christian USAID contractor); a Protestant-run eye clinic; and Sanaa-based church services held in private residences. The Ambassador assigned particular EAC members to liaise with appropriate organization leaders to advise of the threat and consult on the implementation of additional security practices. FPD will return to Jibla to conduct a security review for the benefit of Americans who choose to remain.

5. (S/NF) The meeting ended with concern about any potential danger associated with unofficial travel within Yemen. EAC concluded that unofficial travel will be approved on a case by case basis.

6. (U) Ambassador will meet with American wardens, including representatives of groups noted para. 4, to share information on Jibla attack and encourage self-assessments of vulnerabilities and heightened security.
HULL